

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-9, 11-13 and 15-23 are presented for examination, the independent claims being claims 1 and 21. By this Amendment, the specification is amended.

Summary of the Official Action

In the Official Action, claims 1-9, 11-13 and 15-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Summary of Examiner Interview

Applicants' attorney gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended to him by Examiner Misleh in granting a personal interview on February 22, 2006. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the present remarks.

In the interview, Applicants' attorney discussed the claim language objected to by the Examiner, including the basis in the original specification for the claimed features. It was agreed that Applicants would amend the written specification at page 6, consistent with the original disclosure (including the claims, the drawings and the written disclosure), to include express antecedent basis for the claim language identified by the Examiner.

Formal Amendments to the Specification

The formal rejection of the claims respectfully is traversed. Nevertheless, without conceding the propriety of the rejection, the specification has been amended more clearly to correspond to the language used in the claims, as discussed and agreed to in the personal interview. Support for the amendments may be found in the application as originally filed, e.g., in the original claims, Fig. 3, and the corresponding written disclosure at page 6, line 7 to page 7, line 9. No new matter has been added.

Response to Formal Rejection

Applicants submit that the amendments to the specification obviate the outstanding formal rejection of the claims, and that the pending claims satisfy all requirements under 35 U.S.C. 112, as discussed at the personal interview.

The Claimed Invention

The present invention relates to a novel method of calibrating video and an image sensor for use with a document scanner including digital hardware that calibrates at least one of pixel offset and pixel gain of a video signal. In one aspect, as recited in exemplary claim 1, the claimed invention relates to a method comprising calibrating at least one of pixel offset and pixel gain of a video signal; calibrating for pixel gain a video signal input for a video channel provided with an automatic gain control tab by sensing the video signal input for the video channel provided with the automatic gain control tab to determine a value for calibration; and calibrating for pixel gain a video signal input for a video channel not provided with the automatic gain control tab by multiplying the video signal input for the video signal for the video channel not provided with the automatic gain control tab with a video signal output error value from an integrator, where the video signal output error compensates for pixel error for both the video signal for the video channel provided with the automatic gain control tab and the video signal for the video channel not provided with the automatic gain control tab.

Entry Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (d) do not present any additional claims without

canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (e) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action and the personal interview, and submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the subject application at the Examiner's earliest convenience earnestly are solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:CPW

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